LITERATURE.

WORSHIP IN THE SCHOOL-ROOM. A MANUAL OF DEVOTION INTENDED ESPECIALLY FOR THE SCHOOL, AND ADAPTED TO THE FAMILY. By W. T. Wylie. Schermerhorn, Bancroft & Co., No. 512 Arch street.

We hail with peculiar satisfaction such a work as the book before us. Its design is a good one, and its execution recommends it as a volume needed in every household and invaluable in every school. We will briefly endeavor to give an idea of its arrangement. There are two hundred and fifty-four lessons, suitable for the entire services of the day. The first is a hymn, with the music given, then follows a collection of the various verses of the Bible having bearing upon the special subject; then another hymn on the same topic, and finally a prayer, in which the idea promulgated in the former exercise is laid before the reader. Let us, to illustrate the plan, select a lesson for a day on any subject, say, "Temperance a Christian Virtue." The services open with the well known hymn:—

"Teach me, my God and King,
In all things I see to see;
And what I do in any thing,
To do it as for Thee!

"To scorn the senses' sway,
While still to Thee I tend;
In all I do, be Thou the way,
In all, be Thou the end."

Then follows such selections from Scripture as the following:—

"1. Let your moderation be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

"2. Wherefore, gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end, for the grace that is to be brought unto you, at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

"3. Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

"4. Be not among wine bibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh;

"5. For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty; and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags.

"6. Add to your faith, virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and to patience, godliness.

"7. It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes, strong drink; lest they drink and forget the law, and pervert the judgment of any of the afflicted.

"8. Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!

"9. While they are drunken as drunkards, they shall be devoured as stubble fully dry."

The hymn so popular follows, commencing:—

"A charge to keep I have,
A God to glorify;
A never-dying soul to save,
And fit it for the sky."

Then the services are concluded by the following prayer by Hon. Joseph Allison, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas:—

"Our Father in heaven, enable us at this time to render to Thee an acceptable service. We approach Thee as suppliants in the name of our blessed Redeemer. Draw us, we beseech Thee, by the influence of Thy Holy Spirit, into intimate communion with Thyself.

"May we, in the exercise of a true and an abiding faith, trust in the promise of acceptance given to all who draw nigh unto the throne of Thy heavenly grace, in the name of our Lord Jesus.

"We would believe, help, Lord our unbelief, that we may approach Thee, even with boldness, encouraged by the Comforter, saying unto us, Fear not. We confess our sins before Thee, and acknowledge the justice of our condemnation by Thy holy law, for we have sinned against light and knowledge, and there is no hope in us; having no other refuge, we cling to the cross, and cry, Save, Lord, or we perish. Father, we implore Thy constant care and protection. How great is our need of it, Thou only knowest, assailed as we are by temptations which ever beset us.

"Grant that we may live a godly and Christian life, so that, by Thy grace assisting us, we may triumph over the assaults of the evil one, and in the end, come off conquerors, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

"May we daily grow in grace, and in the knowledge of God; adding to our faith, virtue; to virtue, knowledge; and to knowledge, temperance; and to temperance, patience; and to patience, godliness; that we may be conformed more and more to Thee, and become meet for the inheritance of the just made perfect.

"And, more especially, would we at this time pray, O most merciful God, that we may be kept from the sin of intemperance, and saved from the suffering, the degradation, and all the evils of drunkenness in this life, and from the doom of the impenitent in the life to come.

"How fearful, O God, is Thy decree, that no drunkard shall inherit eternal life!

"Subdue, we pray Thee our carnal appetites and desires; enlighten our darkened understandings; purify and elevate our affections, that we may be able to lead peaceable, and quiet, and holy lives; cultivating the grace of temperance in all things; so that love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance may abide in us.

"And at the end, with affections weaned from the things of earth, may we, purified from all sin, through the merits of our crucified Redeemer, be received to Thyself, and saved by Thy everlasting salvation."

Among the contributors of original prayers are all of the leading divines of our land, and of all denominations. There is no sectional creed espoused, but only the broad frame-work on which all Christendom stands.

From what we have said, the reader can easily infer that the work is one of great value, and supplies a want in the religious world. We have, in restricting it to the school-room and family, made an error. Individuals can use it with profit as well as assemblies. It is bound in very fine style, and in a form to be permanent and bear usage without injury. Too much credit cannot be given to Messrs. Schermerhorn, Bancroft & Co. for the energy displayed, and the manner in which they have got it up.

SHAKESPEARE'S DELINEATIONS OF INSANITY, IMBECILITY, AND SUICIDE. By A. O. Kellogg, M. D. Hurd & Houghton, New York. Philadelphia Agents: J. B. Lippincott & Co.

The little work before us is intended to cover a ground which has escaped almost all the other commentators of Shakespeare, or at least been treated of by them in such a manner as not to debar the expert from throwing new light upon the subject; and this intention is partially carried out. The writer is evidently a great admirer and a careful student of the bard, but he has not deep power of penetration, and, as a general commentator, is a failure. From his position as Physician of the Utica Insane Asylum, we might naturally expect that he would treat with skill those victims of mental malady depicted by the Father of the Drama. He has more than fulfilled expectation in some respects, and he has fallen far short of it in others. In point of numbers we find, if Dr. Kellogg is to be trusted, a far greater number of madmen in Shakespeare than we had any idea of. Under the heading of insane is classed "Lear," "Macbeth," "Lady Macbeth," "Hamlet," "Ophelia," "Jacques," and "Cordelia."

As imbeciles we are told that "Bottom," "Dogberry," "Elbow," "Shallow," "Malvolio," "Bardolph," "Nym," "Pistol," "Launce," and "Caliban" may be ranked together, while "Othello" is given as a suicide. From this it will be seen that the catalogue of character whose minds were weakened is decidedly larger than we had imagined. We did not know that "Macbeth" or "Lady Macbeth" were insane; nor yet was "Jacques" or "Cordelia;" while "Bottom" was only a stupid idler, and "Bardolph" may be classed rather as what is popularly denominated a "bummer," than an imbecile. While we doubt the propriety which classes "Caliban" as an idiot, the criticism, if such it could be called, on "Othello" is clearly out of place, and is, besides, extremely shallow. We turn with pleasure, however, from the defects of the work to its merits. "Lear" is finely treated of, and an amount of professional light poured upon the character which is most valuable; while of the treatment of "Hamlet" we cannot speak so highly. The character is taken up at the commencement of the play and carefully followed throughout; and any one who is familiar with the drama and examines with care the *critique* of Dr. Kellogg, cannot fail to be impressed with the belief that "Hamlet" was, indeed, insane. We quote that part of the examination of his character which treats of that portion of the play which is the great stumbling-block to the general reader:—

"The next appearance of 'Hamlet,' of importance in illustration of our position, is at the conclusion of scene iii., where he finds the king alone and at his attempted devotions. Here was an excellent opportunity for him to wreak his vengeance upon him, and he saw it. 'Now might I do it pat,' says he; but he does not, for the impulse under which alone he can act efficiently is not upon him, and his diseased will and infirmity of purpose are not sufficient for it; and framing a flimsy excuse, such as the fear that if he sent him into eternity while praying he would not be damned, and his revenge would be incomplete, he allows the opportunity to slip from him. He can make great resolves, but he can only execute by a diseased impulse, and this never serves him at the right time. That speedy vengeance which was the sworn purpose of his life is here prevented by his infirmity, and a mad impulse in a subsequent scene causes him to plunge his sword into the heart of poor old 'Polonius,' instead of the heart of the real culprit, his uncle.

"We now come to the extraordinary interview between 'Hamlet' and his mother. (Act 3, scene iv.) Perhaps no scene furnishes to the non-professional reader such strong evidence as this in favor of the theory of feigning. To us, however, he appears like one who, being really and truly insane has summoned all his powers for the accomplishment of his purposes, one of which is to convince others that he is not mad. He can feign either sanity or insanity, as best suited his purposes at the time. Here, in the true spirit which animates him, he asserts in plain words that he is not mad, only in 'craft,' and in spite of all internal evidence to the contrary, most of his readers and critics are ready to believe him.

"'It is not madness I have uttered; bring me to the test.' Unfortunately the test he relies upon, though once considered infallible, is not now regarded as positive; indeed, as applicable to his case it is quite worthless. It strikes us as rather strange, too, that one who is really feigning for a purpose, should take so much pains to make others believe he is not doing so. He speaks rationally, yet sometimes wildly and obscurely, and the unmerciful manner in which he harrows up the feelings of his mother, blameworthy as she was, and so deserving of his severe censure, is in perfect keeping with his conduct towards Ophelia' in a former scene. The reappearance of the ghost, now visible only to himself, shows the deep agitation of his mind, and with all his self-possession he is not able to suppress the emotions caused by this mental apparition.

"In Scenes ii and iii of Act 4, we see another phase of his malady. That peculiar levity of conduct evinced by the insane in view of the dreadful circumstances which they have brought upon themselves by their insane acts—circumstances which would cause the guilty sane to quake with fear—is here admirably shown, as also that waywardness and perversity peculiar to certain forms of insanity. He appears to have concealed the body of 'Polonius,' whom he has slain in an insane impulse, merely out of pure perversity, and not from any fear as to the consequences to himself from the deed. In answer to the question of 'Rosencrantz,' 'What have you done, my lord, with the dead body?' he says, quite significantly, 'Compounded it with the dust, whereto 'tis kin.'

"In the next scene, when the king asks him where is 'Polonius,' he answers:—'At supper. . . . Not where he eats, but where he is eaten; a certain convocation of politic worms are e'en at him. Your worm is your only emperor for diet;' and he continues to rally the king with the most caustic sarcasm, showing him the ultimate identity between a fat king and a lean beggar.

"Again, when the king puts the question, 'Where is Polonius?' he evades in a most provoking manner:—'In heaven; send thither to see: if your messenger find him not there, seek him i' the other place yourself.'

"We next find him bewailing his own imbecility of purpose in view of the expedition of young 'Fortinbras,' quite conscious apparently of his infirmity, yet wholly under its influence, and totally unable to overcome it."

* * * * * * * * * *

"We next meet 'Hamlet' in the churchyard, with that same levity of character and conduct which we have before glanced at as one of the characteristics of his disease. He jests with clowns, and moralizes over dry bones. Here, with all his own sorrowful experiences of human life fresh in his memory, and surrounded with the solemn evidences of the vanity of all earthly things, in the true spirit of madness he makes himself merry with things most grave and solemn. A skull grins with a ghastly smile upon him, and he in return smiles upon it, supposes it to have been the skull of a lawyer, and asks what has become of its 'tenures' and its 'tricks,' and wonders why it does not bring an action for battery against the clown for knocking it about with a dirty shovel. Here he utters that terrible sarcasm against 'men made of money:'—

"'*Ham.*—Is not parchment made of sheep skins?

"'*Hor.*—Ay, my lord and of calves-skins too.

"'*Ham.*—They are sheep and calves which seek out assurance in that.'

This scene with the grave-diggers is not merely rich in wit, humor, philosophy, and morality, but it possesses a profound psychological interest, and it is evident that 'Hamlet' acted very unnaturally under the circumstances, supposing him to be sane or feigning; or supposing him to be insane, acted in the true spirit of his disease, very naturally. The latter supposition is the more reasonable."

The work, taken as a whole, is a valuable addition to Shakespearian literature. It is issued by Hurd & Houghton, and forms an attractive accession to any gentleman's library. It is for sale by J. B. Lippincott & Co., from whom we have received a copy.

HORSE TRAINING MADE EASY. Being a New and Practical System of Teaching and Educating the Horse. By Robert Jennings. John E. Potter & Co., No. 617 Sansom street.

Our humanitarians have at last awakened to the fact that while they have been accustomed to prate about kindness to animals, they have allowed the most horrid brutality to be practised before their doors. The formation of societies is a great step in the right direction, and the publication of such a work as that before us is a powerful auxiliary to the extension of the principles of kindness to the brute creation.

Dr. Jennings has given us a book with two remarkably good qualities. He favors a sound doctrine, and lays it before us in such a manner as we can understand. As a general rule books on horses are so illogically arranged, that to any but a jockey they have no earthly significance. When, therefore, we say we can understand the present work, we pay it a high compliment. It is copiously illustrated, and in a manner which leaves no doubt as to the meaning of the technical terms. As a text-book for all who desire to understand the subject (and who does not?), we give it our hearty recommendation. It is neatly bound, in a popular form, by John E. Potter & Co., of this city.

THE ADMIRAL'S DAUGHTER. By Mrs. Marsh. T. B. Peterson.

Mrs. Marsh is already well and favorably known to our readers as the author of a number of popular novels. The present one is fully up to her reputation. It is a curious mingling of morality and immorality; of society as it is, and as theory makes it, and forms most pleasant and attractive summer reading—a large supply of which, by the-by, is being issued by Messrs. Peterson.

—We have also received from Gebbie & Keppel, No. 825 Filbert street, the agents for the work, the second part of Dore's Illustrated Bible. It is a beautiful typographical production, and of its merits as an exhibition of the art of engraving we spoke on Saturday. It is truly a magnificent production.

—We have also received from Lee & Sheppard, Boston, through G. W. Pitcher, No. 808 Chesnut street, "Why Not? A Book for every Woman," by Dr. Storer; and "Pictures of Country Life," by Alice Carey, from J. B. Lippincott & Co., of both of which we will speak on Saturday.

A BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY.

Not long since we noticed a "Biographical Dictionary," issued by Charles Hole, revised by William A. Wheeler, and reprinted by Hurd & Houghton. After speaking of the difficulties of the task of issuing such a work, and how much easier it was to find fault than to originate a compendium so universal as the one before us, we had occasion to speak rather harshly of the preface to the work by Mr. Wheeler. We said:—

"It is a disagreeable task for an American reviewer to decide in favor of a foreigner, and in opposition to his countrymen. Yet we must confess that a more unjust introduction than was signed by Mr. W. A. Wheeler cannot be conceived. While in general terms he talks about the 'great industry, research, and general accuracy' of the original author, yet he at once plunges into my improvements, corrections, and additions. He states that he added one hundred American names, and mentions a dozen in alphabetical order. He states that he added some European names 'omitted,' and gives us ten, all of which could have been omitted and not missed. 'In not a few instances I have been able to supply missing dates; while of dates erroneously given, or marked as doubtful, I have corrected or verified a still larger number.' It will thus be seen that Mr. Wheeler calls the reader's attention to the defects, slights all the merits, and takes as much credit to himself as possible. When it is remembered that Mr. Hole compiled twenty thousand names, into what insignificance does Mr. Wheeler's hundred additional sink! Of all the dates filled up and corrected, we have no testimony except Mr. Wheeler's own words, as he gives us no means of distinguishing the original from the revised. Under the circumstances, we cannot but accuse the American editor of arrogating to himself undue credit, and detracting unjustly from the hard-earned honor of Mr. Hole. To the latter gentleman belongs by far the greater part, if not all the credit of the work. We will not sound Mr. Wheeler's praises; he has done so too freely himself."

At this criticism Mr. Wheeler has seen fit to take exception, and a copy of his letter has been furnished to us through Messrs. Hurd & Houghton:—

"ROXBURY, 6 June, 1866.

* * * "The writer (a friend of Mr. Hole's, rather than an enemy of mine, I shall judge) misrepresents not only the statements of my 'Introductory Note,' but the general tone of it. I simply told a straightforward story about my connection with the work, and in doing so I was actuated, as I expressly said, by a desire to do justice to the English edition, as well as to the American public and myself. Mr. Hole was left to tell his own story, in his own preface, and there was therefore less need of my having much about his share of the work, for any one who read the two would see that the chief merit of the book was his, and not mine. My object was to 'limit my responsibility,' and not to sound my own praises. Now I think the Dictionary was much improved in things small, and in things great, by the revision it received. The preface—which I have preserved—will attest that; and Miss ——— is another witness in the case, equally impartial and competent. I think that she could say that the book, as it now stands, was not only revised, but largely augmented and improved.'

"Very truly yours,
"WILLIAM A. WHEELER."

Having thus allowed Mr. Wheeler to tell his own tale, we would say a word. In regard to our being a friend of Mr. Hole, we have only to say that we never heard of Mr. Hole until we saw the American edition of his work; and as far as Mr. Wheeler is concerned, we were predisposed in his favor by his reputation as assistant editor of "Webster's Dictionary." What we said was founded entirely on what we esteemed the merits of the case. We were told that a British work was reprinted, but that it had been "augmented and improved;" that the original had "defects," "deficiencies, and imperfections;" that a large number of European names had been omitted which we would naturally expect to find in a work of this sort; that the list of American names was "meagre;" the orthography had "grave mistakes and some hardly less grievous inconsistencies;" that in following the original plan, the American editor had suffered "much misgiving and dissatisfaction." All of these phases derogatory to the originator of the volume are found in Mr. Wheeler's preface; and if space would admit, we would give the whole introductory note entire. And all the praise allotted is that it "shows great industry, conscientious research, and general accuracy." Considering that the great body of the work, 18,000 out of the 20,000 names, at least, must have been placed there by Mr. Hole, are we unjust in expecting of Mr. Wheeler a little more acknowledgment?

His improvements and corrections are not designated, and if the writer desired really to "limit his responsibility," would he not have had some mark for what he did and what he left untouched? Does his preface limit the responsibility in the least? We cannot see that it does, except so far as "Adams, Burr, Otis," and the dozen names he mentions, are concerned. We therefore must hold to our opinion that Mr. Wheeler has arrogated to himself by far too much credit. It was his place either to have given a modest preface, saying that where it was possible he had improved a good work, or else to have, by some typographical sign, designated which was his and which was Mr. Hole's—to have given the originator credit as well as himself for that part which was untouched. We do not doubt that the work was much improved by the American reviser, yet the public would have appreciated the whole better had he not pressed his claims so loudly.

—The Harpers have published in a single volume, choicely bound and admirably printed, Goldwin Smith's six "Lectures on the Study of History," which were delivered in Oxford in the years 1859, 1860, and 1861; and another lecture delivered by the same cultured gentleman before the New York Historical Society, in 1864, on "The University of Oxford." The work is one well calculated to attract and merit the attention of the student of history. The chapter on the American Colonies throws a new light on the subject of our early political status, while the whole work is fraught with deep interest to readers. The following is among the curious theories which the Professor promulgates:—

"It is confidently said that the historical progress of the most advanced nations of Europe during recent times has been beyond the pale of Christendom, and that it forms a conclusive proof of the exhaustion and decline of Christianity. The intellect of Protestant Germany, which has played so momentous a part in the historical progress of the last century, is triumphantly cited as a palpable instance of this fact. There is much which, to the eye of the theologian, looking to religious processions, is without the pale of Christendom, but which to the historical eye, looking to moral connections, is still within it. That increase of infidelity which is spoken of with so much alarm on one side, and so much exultation on the other, theologically viewed, is no doubt great, especially if we look not to mere numbers, but to intellectual cultivation and influence; but, viewed morally, it is, considering the distractions of Christendom, surprisingly small. Great masses of intelligence and eminent leaders of thought in all departments have been nominally and outwardly estranged from Christendom by the divisions of the churches; by the rending of the truth and of the means of religious influence between them; by the barren and impotent dogmatism in which, through their rivalries and controversies, they are perpetually driving each other; by the sinister alliances of some of them with political obstructiveness and injustice; by the apparent conflict which their pretensions create between the claims of reason and those of religious faith; by the false ground which some of them have taken in regard to the discoveries of science and historical philosophy; and most of all, perhaps, by the contradiction which their mutual denunciations produce between the palpable facts of our common morality and the supposed judgments of religion. But it will be found, on closer inspection, that these apparent seceders from Christendom remain Christians in their whole view of the world, of God, of the human character and destinies; speak a language and appeal to principles and sympathies essentially Christian; draw their moral life from the Christendom which surrounds them; receive their wives at Christian altars, and bring up their children in the Christian faith. Many a great writer who is brought forward as a proof that the intellect of the age is Christian no longer, will be found, on examination, to have nothing in his writings which is not derived from a Christian source. Schleiermacher appears to be hailed as one of those who, by their criticisms, have pronounced the doom of the 'popular religion.' Schleiermacher received the Eucharist on his death bed, and died declaring that he had adhered to the living spirit of Christianity rather than to the dead letter. He may have been illogical, but he cannot be said, historically, not to have been a Christian."

G. W. Pitcher, No. 808 Chesnut street, has it for sale.

THE ANNUAL HAND-BOOK OF TRAVEL.—We learn that that valuable work, "Appleton's Hand-Book of Travel," will appear in a new edition this year, and with a vast amount of fresh matter. It will be in three parts, published separately at first, and then bound in one volume, viz.:—"The Southern Tour," "The Western Tour" (comprising the Pennsylvania routes of travel and objects of interest), and "The Northern and New England Tour." "The Southern Tour" will be published in a few days.

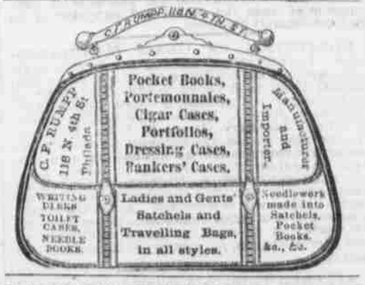
Among the numerous hand-books issued from the United States press, that published by this well-known and highly popular house takes first rank. It is now in course of its ninth issue, and no pains will be spared to maintain and increase its high reputation. Descriptions of many institutions, both public and private, never included in any local Directory or Guide, will be found in its pages, accompanied by maps, routes, and tables of distances. We trust our associations and citizens, who from long residence here are familiar with its history and progress, will extend to Mr. Hall, the editor, every facility for the completion of his labors. Communications will be gratefully received by him. His address is care of D. Appleton & Co., New York.

—A gentleman of Washington is engaged on a "Dictionary of Congress," which is to be a sort of manual of all sorts of information relative to the present and past Congresses. He finds that the total number of Senators and Representatives who have had seats in Congress since the adoption of the Constitution is 4012—the twenty-one free States having sent 2610 members and the fifteen slave States 1402 members. As to the present Congress, of the 262 members in both Houses, 70 were born in New England, 49 in New York, while the remainder are about equally divided between the Middle and Western States, excepting two born in Ireland, one in Scotland, one in Bavaria, and one in Canada. Of the score of professions the law claims a large majority, while printers and newspaper men number no less than fourteen members. A work of this kind is not merely curious, but also very useful.

—Mr. Henry Morley, the newly elected Professor of English Literature in University College, London, has published, in a neat little volume, the substance of his theatrical criticisms in the columns of the *Examiner*, from 1851 to 1860—taking for his title "The Journal of a Playgoer." Mr. Morley's estimate of American actors and actresses will be of interest to some of our readers.

In his notice of *Rip Van Winkle*, Mr. Morley is so intent on exposing the wretched and tasteless variations which the adaptor of the piece has made from the tale as Irving told it, that Mr. Jefferson's merits are not sufficiently appreciated; still it is allowed to be doubtful "if Mr. Jefferson, in such a drama, more could well be done by the best effort of genius to represent the 'Rip Van Winkle' of whom Washington Irving tells." Other American players noticed in the "Journal" are Mr. Murdoch, who appeared in London in 1856 and who is highly spoken of. "Vigorous without excess, lively and manly, his acting abounds in shrewd and well-considered by-play." Of Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams, Mr. Morley thinks they excel in farces suited to their humor, and have the rare merit on a complete absence of vulgarity.

The "Journal" begins with a notice, in August, 1851, of the appearance of the Bateman children at St. James' Theatre, under the patronage of the discriminating Mr. Barnum, and towards the end of the book, in the pages devoted to 1855, we have Mr. Morley's estimate of Miss Bateman, the adult. Of her acting in *Leah*, he says it was only for a strain of pathos in the last act, and for a few touching notes of the voice just then, that she was to be credited with a power of pathetic expression that came of her own genius, and not of mere stage drilling. She has almost no range. "Her American intonation adds to the natural monotony of her delivery, although its nasal tendency may lend itself to the effect of those pathetic tones which are her strong recommendation to the public favor. When she is loud or swift, or anything but pathetic, she is never thoroughly expressive." He ranks her, finally, "among the clever actresses whose special excellence is bounded within limits so narrow, that although once carefully and exclusively presented, it may win for a short time deserved success, it does no enable them permanently to hold their own among performers of the highest class."



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